

## New England Telehealth Consortium Sites

<u>NETC Site Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>RUCA</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Type</u>
The Aroostook Medical Center -Limestone	87 Access Hwy	Limestone	ME	04750	10.3	2073253310	Health Clinic
The Aroostook Medical Center - North St	11 North Street	Presque Isle	ME	04769	7	2077684000	Health Clinic
The Bond Wellness Center at MCH	458 Old Street Road	Peterborough	NH	03458	7.4	6039244650	Health Clinic
The Cianchette Building Brewer	43 Whiting Hill Rd	Brewer	ME	04412	1	2079737050	Healthcare
The Jackson Laboratory	600 Main Street	Bar Harbor	ME	04609	7	2072886000	Health Research
Transcription, LifeLine, Cancer Registry	10 Amherst Street	Biddeford	ME	04005	4.1	2072837717	Healthcare
Trenton Health Center	394 Bar Harbor Road	Bar Harbor	ME	04609	7	2076675899	Health Clinic
UNH School of Health and Human Services	279 Hewitt Hall, 4 Library Way	Durham	NH	03824	1	6038625099	Health Education
Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital	181 Corliss Lane	Colebrook	NH	03576	10	6032374971	Hospital
Valley Regional Hospital	243 Elm St.	Claremont	NH	03743	4	6035427771	Hospital
Visting Nurse of Aroostook	14 Carroll Street	Caribou	ME	04736	7	2074982578	Healthcare
VNA Home Health Care	50 Foden Road	South Portland	ME	04106	1	2077808624	Health Clinic
VNAH Brattleboro	1 Holstein Pl., Suite 311	Brattleboro	VT	05301	4	8022574390	Health Clinic
VNAH Lebanon	66 Benning St., Suite 6	West Lebanon	NH	03784	4	6032988399	Health Clinic
VNAH Springfield	38 Pleasant Street	Springfield	VT	05156	7	8028852503	Health Clinic
VNAH White River	331 Olcott Dr., Suite U1	White River Junct	VT	05001	5	8022952604	Health Clinic
Wakefield Family Medicine	131 Meadow Street	Wakefield	NH	03872	10.1	6035225010	Health Clinic
Waldoboro MMG Office	230 Kalers Comer Road	Waldoboro	ME	04572	10	2078326394	Health Clinic
Washburn Regional Health Center	1260 Main Street	Washburn	ME	04786	10	2074558147	Health Clinic
Waterville Family Practice	13 Railroad Sq.	Waterville	ME	04901	4	2078731181	Health Clinic
Waterville Foot & Ankle Center, PA	25 First Park Suite C	Oakland	ME	04963	4	2078726010	Health Clinic

## New England Telehealth Consortium Sites

<u>NETC Site Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>RUCA</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Type</u>
Waterville Obstetrics and Gynecology	325 Kennedy Memorial Dr # E	Waterville	ME	04901	4	2078735665	Health Clinic
Waterville Pediatrics	159 Silver Street	Waterville	ME	04901	4	2078735437	Health Clinic
Waterville Surgical Associates	180 Kennedy Memorial Dr #303	Waterville	ME	04901	4	2078617874	Health Clinic
Waterville Surgical, P.A.	180 Kennedy Memorial Dr #204	Waterville	ME	04901	4	2078727600	Health Clinic
Waterville Women's Care	180 Kennedy Memorial Dr #101	Waterville	ME	04901	4	2078777477	Health Clinic
Weeks Home Health	278 Main St	Lancaster	NH	03584	10	6037885020	Health Clinic
Weeks Medical Center	173 Middle Street	Lancaster	NH	03584	10	6037884911	Hospital
Weeks-Groveton Physician's Office	47 Church St	Groveton	<b>NH</b>	03582	10	603-636-1101	Health Clinic
Weeks-Lancaster Physician's Office	170 Middle St	Lancaster	<b>NH</b>	03584	10	603-788-2521	Health Clinic
Weeks-Whitefield Physician's Office	8 Clover Lane	Whitefield	NH	03598	10	6038379005	Health Clinic
Wells Urgent Care	114 Sanford Road	Wells	ME	04090	10.4	2076418060	Health Clinic
West Central Behavioral Health	9 Hanover St., Suite 2	Lebanon	NH	03766	4	6034480126	Behavioral Health
Westbrook Student Health Center	716 Stevens Ave	Portland	ME	04103	1	2072214242	Health Clinic
Western Maine Family Practice	193 Main Street, Suite 2	Norway	ME	04268	7	2077439292	Health Clinic
Western Maine OB/GYN	192 Main Street, Suite 2	Norway	ME	04268	7	2077437605	Health Clinic
Western Maine Pediatric	192 Main Street, Suite 9	Bridgton	ME	04009	10.4	2077438766	Health Clinic
White Birch Medical Center	899 Central Street	Millinocket	ME	04462	7	2077235173	Health Clinic
William E. Bennett, M.D.	325 C Kennedy Memorial Drive	Waterville	ME	04901	4	2078729511	Health Clinic
William Marsh, M.D.	240 South Main Street	Wolfeboro	<b>NH</b>	03894	7	6035691550	Health Clinic
William R. Chasse, M.D.	325 Kennedy Memorial Drive	Waterville	ME	04901	4	2078730737	Health Clinic
Winnepesaukee Family Medicine	240 South Main Street	Wolfeboro	NH	03894	7	6035697574	Health Clinic

### New England Telehealth Consortium Sites

<u>NETC Site Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>RUCA</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Type</u>
Winthrop Health Center	149 Maine Street Suite 2A	Wintbrop	ME	04364	7.2	2073772111	Health Clinic
Winthrop Pediatrics	148 Maine Street Suite 1A	Winthrop	ME	04364	7.2	2073772114	Health Clinic
Wiscasset MMG Office	49 Hooper Street	Wiscasset	ME	04578	10.5	2078827911	Health Clinic
Wolfeboro OB/GYN	240 South Main Street	Wolfeboro	NH	03894	7	6035697585	Health Clinic
Wolfeboro Orthopedics	240 South Main Street	Wolfeboro	NH	03894	7	6035692251	Health Clinic
Wolfeboro Pediatrics	240 South Main Street	Wolfeboro	NH	03894	7	6035697620	Health Clinic
Women's Health Center	8 Wayman Lane	Bar Harbor	ME	04609	7	2072888100	Health Clinic
York County Community Health Center	6 Spruce Street	Sanford	ME	04073	4	2074906900	FQHC
York Hospital	15 Hospital Drive	York	ME	03909	2	2073634321	Hospital

## Appendix I Requested Exceptions

1. We request that the FCC grant us an exception to the normal 465 filing process. We respectfully request that we be allowed to submit one form 465 with an attachment listing all the sites in our consortium. (See Appendix I) If this exception is not granted, we will have to file 555 separate 465 forms. Filing one aggregate 465 form for all of the NETC sites will make it more efficient to submit form 465, and will provide an easier audit mechanism for USAC.
2. We request that the USAC 465 submission follow the initial network design study, allow a 28 day bid waiting period, time to review and evaluate bids, and still provide NETC with one full year of funding.
3. We request that the FCC grant us an exception to the normal 466 filing process. We respectfully request that we be allowed to submit one form 466 with an attachment listing all the sites in our consortium. (See Appendix I) If this exception is not granted, we will have to file 555 separate 466 forms. Filing one aggregate 466 form for all of the NETC sites will make it more efficient to submit form 466, and will provide an easier audit mechanism for USAC.
4. We request that the FCC grant us an exception to the normal 467 filing process. We respectfully request that we be allowed to submit one form 467 with an attachment listing all the sites in our consortium. (See Appendix I) If this exception is not granted, we will have to file 555 separate 467 forms. Filing one aggregate 467 form for all of the NETC sites will make it more efficient to submit form 467, and will provide an easier audit mechanism for USAC.
5. Since New England Telehealth Consortium will be incurring the costs to design the network, we respectfully request that the FCC allow New England Telehealth Consortium to invoice USAC for network design work.

## **Appendix J Support Letters**

Letters of support have been received and are attached or have been sent directly to the FCC.

### **Maine Delegation**

John Baldacci, Governor  
Susan Collins, U.S. Senator  
Olympia Snowe, U.S. Senator  
Tom Allen, U.S. Representative  
Michael Michaud, U.S. Representative

### **Maine Department of HHS**

### **New Hampshire Delegation**

John Lynch, Governor  
John Sununu, U.S. Senator – sent letters to FCC  
Judd Gregg, U.S. Senator – sent letters to FCC  
Paul Hodes, U.S. Representative – sent letters to FCC  
Carol Shea-Porter, U.S. Representative – sent letters to FCC

### **Vermont Delegation**

Patrick Leahy, U.S. Senator  
Bernard Sanders, U.S. Senator  
Peter Welch, U.S. Representative

### **Internet2**

### **Northern Crossroads**



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCIO

GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

April 30, 2007

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Martin:

I am writing to express my strong support for the New England Telehealth Consortium's (NETC) application for funding under the Rural Health Care Pilot Program.

Maine is a large, rural state in terms of geography, but a small state in the sense that our residents have time and again shown how it is possible to work collaboratively to address emerging challenges. This application is yet another example of Mainers working together: NETC has a total of 621 sites across New England, with the majority (508) in Maine, representing an impressive 86% of our state's health care providers.

Awarding this application would remove important roadblocks that have been encountered in a range of health reform efforts underway in Maine, thus allowing these efforts to come to fruition. For instance, Maine's *HealthInfoNet* seeks to create a statewide interconnected Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system. Stakeholders have worked hard to address a range of issues surrounding the creation of a successful system, but one problem they have been unable to address is that many parts of the state simply lack the internet infrastructure necessary for an effective EMR system. Pilot Program funding would address this critical issue, enabling *HealthInfoNet* to move forward.

Further, my biennial State Health Plan - which lays out a comprehensive approach to improving Maine citizens' health and the performance of Maine's health care system - recognizes the importance of telemedicine in a rural state like Maine. The Plan created a telehealth workgroup - many of whose members are participants in NETC's application - convened jointly by the Governor's Office and the Maine Health Access Foundation to encourage appropriate use of telemedicine by sharing of best practices and by identifying and addressing barriers to appropriate telemedicine use, one of which is the lack of internet infrastructure in many parts of the state. Rural Health Care Pilot Program funding would also help this effort by improving the broadband access necessary for effective telemedicine.



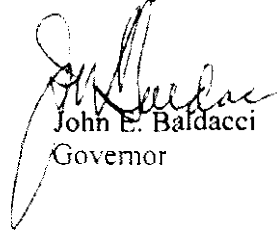
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER  
888-577-6690 (TTY)  
www.maine.gov

PHONE: (207) 287-3531 (Voice)

FAX: (207) 287-1034

I strongly believe that awarding this application can bring tremendous benefits to the people of Maine, as well as accomplishing the goals of the pilot program by providing a statewide model for other rural areas by showing how stakeholders can work together to build efficient and effective health care systems to improve health care cost, quality, and access **for** their residents. I urge your careful consideration of this application, and I assure you that I will continue to offer my support in any way that I can.

Sincerely,



John E. Baldacci  
Governor

cc: Honorable Michael J. Copps  
Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein  
Honorable Deborah Taylor Tate  
Honorable Robert M. McDowell  
Jim Rogers, President, ProInfoNet  
Trish Riley, Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance

SUSAN M. COLLINS  
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904  
(202) 224-2523  
(202) 224-2693 (FAX)

*United States Senate*  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,  
RANKING MEMBER  
ARMED SERVICES  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON AGING

April 24, 2007

Mr. James Rogers  
New England Telehealth Consortium  
C/o ProInfoNet  
145 Exchange Street, Suite 4  
Bangor, ME 04401

Dear Mr. Rogers:

I write to express my strong support for the application to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for funding to create the New England Telehealth Consortium (Consortium). The proposed FCC pilot program would provide state and regional broadband networks, and would connect those networks to dedicated nationwide backbone providers. In addition, the pilot program would fund the costs of the advanced telecommunications and information services that will ride over those networks.

The scope of the Consortium, a broadband network linking healthcare organizations across three states, would bring the advantages of broadband communication for healthcare to a large region of rural New England. The access to broadband service would create greater access to specialized fields of medicine in these rural areas, with large populations of low income persons. It would reduce travel time in remote rural areas, speed critical diagnoses, and improve the quality of health care provided. Further, the size of the Consortium would allow increased access to healthcare research and education through collaboration and reduced costs.

The Consortium would link 27 partners, already providing telehealth services in their own service area. Over 500 affiliates of these partners would be interconnected if this proposal is funded, and the quality of the partners is impressive.

I urge the Federal Communications Commission to give the application every consideration, and to act favorably upon it consistent with applicable laws and regulations

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

SMC:jdc



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

OLYMPIA J. SNOWE  
MAINE  
151 Russell, Senate Office Building  
1202-225-0344  
Web Site: <http://www.senate.gov>  
DEPUTY VICE

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1000

COMMITTEES:  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
FARMING AND COAST GUARD  
SUBCOMMITTEE

FINANCE

INTELLIGENCE

RANKING MEMBER, SMALL BUSINESS

April 23, 2007

James Rogers  
New England Telehealth Consortium  
c/o ProInfoNet  
145 Exchange Street, Suite 4  
Bangor, Maine 04401

Dear James:

Thank you for contacting me about ProInfoNet's grant application to the Federal Communications Commission's Rural Healthcare Pilot Program. I appreciate hearing from you.

ProInfoNet's development of the New England Health Care Network will provide a vital link with regional consortiums with urban public practices, research institutions, academic institutions and medical specialist for the purpose of greater efficiencies in shared information in the healthcare field. This new network will help connect and provide access to many of the geographically disadvantaged regions in the State of Maine to diverse and quality healthcare services and information. James, you and your staff are to be commended for your active commitment to improving access to health care and taking important steps towards addressing the issues of health disparity for residents throughout New England. It is with this commitment in mind that I lend my support to ProInfoNet's application to the FCC Rural Healthcare Pilot Program.

It is my understanding that these funds will enable ProInfoNet's network to provide much needed broadband networks and connectivity to Internet-2, which will be fundamental in creating the required network for the telehealth and telemedicine services. Additionally, the development of this network will help to eliminate barriers to high quality medical and mental health services, fulfilling the health care needs in the more rural regions of the state.

I have a strong appreciation for the valuable health care services that will be provided by ProInfoNet New England Health Care Network. I trust your application will be reviewed carefully, and be given every consideration. Again, thank you for contacting me and do not hesitate to keep in touch with me on matters of interest to you.

Sincerely,

  
OLYMPIA J. SNOWE  
United States Senator

WASHINGTON  
Two Capitol Plaza North  
Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20540  
(202) 786-2451

ALBANY  
100 Western Avenue, Suite 100  
Albany, NY 12242  
(518) 462-6780

BANGOR  
One Bank Building Plaza, Suite 200  
Bangor, ME 04401  
(207) 945-0432

BOSTON  
220 Massachusetts  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 780-4144

BUFFALO  
One Capital Plaza North  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 854-0551  
Main Office Service  
DC 20540

PORTLAND  
100 Academy Street, Suite  
Portland, ME 04106  
(207) 786-1124

WASHINGTON CALL TOLL-FREE 1-800-432-1539

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

THOMAS H. ALLEN  
1ST DISTRICT OF MAINE

1127 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6116

57 EXCHANGE STREET, SUITE 302  
PORTLAND, ME 04101  
(207) 774-5019

209 MAIN STREET, SUITE 103  
SACO, ME 04072  
(207) 283-8054

www.tomallen.house.gov



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1901

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET  
COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
HEALTH  
ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY  
ENVIRONMENT AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

HOUSE OCEANS CAUCUS  
CO-CHAIR

AFFORDABLE MEDICINES TASK FORCE  
CO-CHAIR

April 17, 2007

The Honorable Kevin Martin  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
Room 8-B201  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D C 20554

RE: Rural Health **Care** Pilot Program

Dear Chairman Martin:

I am writing in support of the upcoming application by ProInfoNet's New England Health Care Network for funding under the *Rural Health Care Pilot Program Order*

ProInfoNet is a Maine-based company that has put together an impressive consortium of health care providers and educators that will link health practitioners and specialists, research institutions, and academic institutions over a large geographic area. The consortium involves more than 600 sites across rural northern New England, in Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire. In Maine specifically, the consortium includes 477 sites representing 85 percent of health providers in every part of the State. Participants will benefit from greater access to current research, expert support and consultation, and other telehealth and telemedicine opportunities.

I believe that the New England Health Care Network can accomplish the goals of the pilot program by serving as a model for other rural areas of the country and by promoting efficiency, connectivity, and sharing of health information technology. I urge the Commission to give ProInfoNet's application full consideration and hope that you will approve it for funding.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Tom Allen  
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Michael J. Copps  
The Honorable ~~Jonathan~~ S. Adelstein  
The Honorable Deborah Taylor Tate  
The Honorable ~~Robert~~ M. McDowell

THOMAS H. ALLEN  
1ST DISTRICT OF MAINE

1127 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6116

57 EXCHANGE STREET, SUITE 302  
PORTLAND, ME 04101  
(207) 774-5019

209 MAIN STREET, SUITE 103  
SACO, ME 04072  
(207) 283-8054

www.tomallen.house.gov



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1901

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

HEALTH

ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY  
ENVIRONMENT AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

HOUSE OCEANS CAUCUS  
CO-CHAIR

AFFORDABLE MEDICINES TASK FORCE  
CO-CHAIR

April 27, 2007

James Rogers  
New England Telehealth Consortium  
c/o ProInfoNet  
145 Exchange Street, Suite 4  
Bangor, ME 04401

Re: WC Docket No. 02-06

Dear Mr. Rogers:

I am pleased to write in support of the grant application submitted by the New England Telehealth Consortium.

Maine is a large, primarily rural state, with a relatively small population, many of whom live in areas underserved by health care providers. Traveling long distances to obtain needed medical care is a difficult fact of life for many Maine residents, but is often impossible for others. Health care providers serving in rural areas also are handicapped by lack of access to specialists, consultants and diagnostic and other tools and facilities. The advent of telemedicine has been exceptionally important in solving these problems, and for the past 15 years, the New England Telehealth Consortium has been a leader in this field.

The proposed pilot project that would be funded by this grant is the next and crucial step in this effort to provide telehealth and telemedicine services in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and western Massachusetts. By partnering together, participating research, academic, and health care organizations would be able to reach more providers and provide enhanced services. The collaboration will also reduce costs, thus allowing expansion of existing programs and implementation of more effective and sustainable telehealth services.

Your program has been a great service for the people of Maine. I hope that your proposal is approved so that even more people will benefit.

Sincerely,

Tom Allen  
Member of Congress

THA/jc

MICHAEL H. MICHAUD  
2ND DISTRICT, MAINE

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
1724 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
PHONE: (202) 225-6306  
FAX: (202) 225-2943  
[www.house.gov/michaud](http://www.house.gov/michaud)

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

COMMITTEES:  
**VETERANS' AFFAIRS**  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
CHAIRMAN  
**TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS, PIPELINES  
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
**SMALL BUSINESS**  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL AND URBAN  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAX AND FINANCE

April 27, 2007

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

I am writing to offer my enthusiastic support for the New England Telehealth Consortium's application under the Rural Healthcare Pilot Program.

The development of high speed Internet infrastructure is critical to health care in Maine's rural communities. Sixty percent of Mainers live in the rural regions that encompass much of the state. Serious challenges face rural Maine communities in connecting to high speed Internet, including geographic gaps in service that prevent access for many students, residents, and businesses in the state. This lack of access also impacts health care providers and the services that they are able to provide.

New England Telehealth's initiative would connect healthcare providers across New England to better serve patients through innovative telemedicine programs and other technologies. In particular, the Consortium seeks FCC support for the establishment of dedicated broadband networks and connectivity to Internet-2 (12). Participants would share a broadband network with many health education institutions, research laboratories, and health care providers, increasing and validating telehealth and telemedicine opportunities.

I am confident that this project would bring significant benefit to residents across New England, and particularly Maine.

With warmest regards,



Michael H. Michaud  
Member of Congress

BANGOR:  
23 WATER STREET  
BANGOR, ME 04401  
PHONE: (207) 941-6835  
FAX: (207) 942-6907

LEWISTON:  
179 LISBON STREET, GROUND FLOOR  
LEWISTON, ME 04240  
PHONE: (207) 782-3704  
FAX: (207) 782-5330

PRESQUE ISLE:  
445 MAIN STREET  
PRESQUE ISLE, ME 04769  
PHONE: (207) 764-1036  
FAX: (207) 764-1060

WATERVILLE:  
18 COMMON STREET  
WATERVILLE, ME 04901  
PHONE: (207) 873-6713  
FAX: (207) 873-6717

**MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**  
2ND DISTRICT, MAINE

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
437 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
PHONE: (202) 225-6306  
FAX: (202) 225-2943  
www.house.gov/michaud

SENIOR WHIP

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 20, 2007

COMMITTEES:  
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
HIGHWAYS, TRANSIT & PIPELINES SUBCOMMITTEE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS &  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
RANKING MEMBER  
SMALL BUSINESS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL ENTERPRISE,  
AGRICULTURE, AND TECHNOLOGY  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAX, FINANCE, AND EXPORTS

Mr. James Rogers  
New England Telehealth Consortium  
145 Exchange Street, Suite 4  
C/o ProInfoNet  
Bangor, Maine 04401-6505

Dear James:

I am writing to express my strong support for the New England Telehealth Consortium. The Consortium is a non-profit organization consisting of a wide variety of experienced partners including research, academic, public and private healthcare organizations dedicated to telehealth and telemedicine.

The stated goal of the Consortium is to provide increased access to healthcare services, research and education by enhancing broadband capacity to support existing programs. Healthcare services in rural areas is in need of increased attention and the program designed by the New England Telehealth Consortium will address these needs. By connecting rural healthcare providers with urban specialists, teaching hospitals and medical research centers the quality of healthcare provided by rural areas will be increased immensely. Given the large number of rural areas in Maine I support this project wholeheartedly.

Thank you again for your consideration and attention to this most important matter. If you have any questions, or if I may be of any further assistance regarding this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With warmest regards,



Michael H. Michaud  
Member of Congress

Please reply to:

Office of Congressman Michael H. Michaud  
23 Water Street, Suite 205  
Bangor, ME 04401

BANGOR:  
23 WATER STREET  
BANGOR, ME 04401  
PHONE: 12071942-6935  
FAX: 12071942-5907

LEWISTON:  
179 LISBON STREET, GROUND FLOOR  
LEWISTON, ME 04240  
PHONE: 12071782-3704  
FAX: 12071782-5330

PRESQUE ISLE:  
445 MAIN STREET  
PRESQUE ISLE, ME 04769  
PHONE: 12071764-1036  
FAX: 12071764-1060

WATERVILLE:  
16 COMMON STREET  
WATERVILLE, ME 04901  
PHONE: 12071873-5713  
FAX: 12071873-5717



JOHN H. LYNCH  
Governor

# State of New Hampshire

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

107 North Main Street, State House - Rm 205  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
Telephone (603) 271-2121  
[www.nh.gov/governor](http://www.nh.gov/governor)  
[governorlynch@nh.gov](mailto:governorlynch@nh.gov)

April 25, 2007

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington DC 20554

RE: Letter of Support for FCC 06-144 Application

Dear Secretary Dortch:

I am writing in support of the New England Telehealth Consortium's funding application to the Federal Communications Commission's Rural Health Care Pilot Project (order FCC 06-144). The New England Telehealth Consortium is comprised of rural health care providers in New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont, all of who will benefit from an expanded broadband network linking these organizations.

The New England Telehealth Consortium, with more than 500 provider locations, has taken an innovative approach to this funding application. Consumers and providers of health care residing in New Hampshire's rural communities would benefit from expanded and enhanced broadband access to reduce geographic and economic barriers to appropriate levels of health care.

In New Hampshire, we have multiple health care initiatives currently in progress that will also benefit from this funding opportunity: telemedicine, electronic prescribing, distance learning, and electronic medical records, to name just a few. Additionally, the New Hampshire Citizens Health Initiative is working on a broader set of health care issues with the goal of making New Hampshire the healthiest state in the nation with a cost-effective delivery system of care.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

John H. Lynch  
Governor

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**  
April 26, 2007

Mr. Kevin J. Martin  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Martin,

The Vermont delegation strongly supports the construction and deployment of advanced, high-speed telecommunications and data networks in rural New England. The improvement and construction of broadband networks and facilities to provide rural New England with the infrastructure will allow residents to live locally and compete globally. We support the New England Telehealth Consortium Proposal, WC Docket No. 02-60 FCC Rural Health Care Pilot Program Grant.

Over the past fifteen years, the individual members and affiliates of the New England Telehealth Consortium have provided telehealth services throughout their service areas, which are predominantly rural. The development of the New England Telehealth Consortium, consisting of 30 members and more than 600 affiliates across three states, is the next logical step in this progressive attempt to provide telemedicine and telehealth services throughout the region and link to networks across the United States. This pilot program will develop a broadband network that will electronically link the consortium's diverse healthcare organizations located across Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire.

The Consortium is a newly formed non-profit organization consisting of a wide variety of experienced partners including research, academic, public and private healthcare organizations dedicated to telehealth and telemedicine. The goal of this Consortium is to provide increased access to healthcare services, research and education by enhancing broadband capacity to support existing programs and the implementation of more effective and sustainable telehealth services. The Consortium will do this by promoting collaboration and reduced costs through partnering and leveraged spending. This grant will make it possible to leverage current telemedicine spending to reach more rural providers, improve the capacity of those currently networked and provide additional specialized services throughout the region, especially to remote, rural areas.

Consortium partners include University of Maine School of Nursing, Mt. Ascutney Hospital, Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, University of New England, North Country Health Consortium and many critical access hospitals located throughout the region. The nationally recognized expertise of these partners includes a wide variety of telehealth experience, research and knowledge that will serve both the Consortium and the Pilot Project well in meeting goals and objectives.

We kindly urge you to give this grant your consideration

Sincerely,



Patrick Leahy  
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



Peter Welch  
United States Representative

cc: Mr. James Rogers, New England Telehealth Consortium  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner ~~Robert~~ M. McDowell  
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate



**Internet2**  
**Office of the President & CEO**  
1000 Oakbrook Drive, Suite 300  
**Ann Arbor, MI 48104**  
(734) 913-4250  
(734) 913-4255 (fax)  
[www.internet2.edu](http://www.internet2.edu)

May 2, 2007

Jim Rogers  
President, ProInfo Net  
145 Exchange Street. Suite 4  
Bangor, ME 4401

Dear Mr. Rogers:

On behalf of Internet2, I am pleased to write in support of the proposal that the New England Telehealth Consortium (NETC) will be submitting in response to the Federal Communication Commission's Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WE Docket No. 02-60.

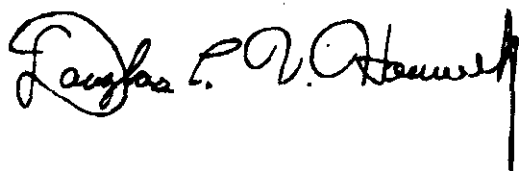
NETC appears to be well positioned to provide enhanced access to underserved regions of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. With 31 members representing 555 health care sites in the tri-state region, NETC provides telehealth services through partners including academic medical centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, health research and health education sites, and correctional facilities. It is likely that NETC efforts will contribute to the improvement of healthcare throughout this tri-state region through remote diagnosis and treatment, and that the use of Internet2's high bandwidth network (facilitated via connection through the Northern Crossroads network) will provide access to unmatched content and support.

The proposal will utilize the new Internet2 Network and the regional networks to expand the telehealth infrastructure and provide high speed connections to all participants. By incorporating Internet2's middleware, security, and performance measurement tools, it also will provide secure exchange of medical records, permit remote access to expert diagnosis and treatment, increase cost-efficiencies by reducing costs associated with travel, and enhance training and research collaboration with secure multi-site videoconferencing. The use of Internet2's network not only will provide an effective, secure, and system for statewide and national telehealth and telemedicine, but also will ensure that training and other integrated resources will be incorporated to optimize the network's utility. In doing so, the regional network that will be created will facilitate the exchange of reliable data, and digital image, voice, and video transmissions with quality to enhance real-time clinical consultation.

Internet2 is the foremost U.S. advanced networking consortium. Led by the research and education community since 1996, Internet2 promotes the missions of its members by providing both leading-edge network capabilities and unique partnership opportunities that together facilitate the development, deployment and **use** of revolutionary Internet technologies. The Internet2 Network and its member community innovations in middleware, security, educational networking, and partnerships with premier federal agencies such as NIH are uniquely positioned to deliver high performance, flexible, low-cost connectivity in support of healthcare needs on a sustained basis on the local, regional, state, and national levels. In the process, these partnerships are likely to expand technological capabilities, increase the range of geographical access to sophisticated treatment modalities, and redefine the parameters of disease diagnosis, treatment, and management.

We are pleased to offer our support for these initiatives, which will enhance the provision of telehealth and telemedicine services regionally and nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Douglas E. Van Houweling". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long vertical line extending downwards from the end.

Douglas E. Van Houweling  
President and CEO, Internet2



---

## Northern Crossroads Support for "FCC Rural Healthcare Pilot"

---

### Background

The **Northern Crossroads (NoX)** is an affiliation of Academic, Research, Healthcare, and Government institutions and the networks they represent in New England. The Northern Crossroads today provides connectivity to over one (1) million users in the Northeast US. All with a common interest in facilitating advanced networking and applications in New England. Participants include institutions of higher education and partner organizations that support research, education, healthcare and economic development. The goals of the NoX are to:

- Foster advanced networking in support of research and education in New England
- Share intellectual capital and material resources to further the development and delivery of advanced network services and applications to our communities;
- Aggregate services to benefit from economies of scale;
- Encourage collaboration among participating institutions and our respective academic communities;
- Consolidate regional representation of our interests to the larger national and international community, and;
- Collaborate with other organizations pursuing advanced networking

The Northern Crossroads aggregates traffic from its members to the Internet2 national backbone network and provides regional services to its members. The Northern Crossroads has been in continuous operation since October **1999**, when the NoX established a robust service platform to support the goals of its participants under a co-location arrangement with Qwest at their point-of-presence (PoP) in Boston at 230 Congress Street. Over the years, the NoX has expanded to 300 Bent Street in Cambridge under a co-location arrangement with Level 3 and to 1 Summer Street in Boston. These service points are interconnected by a vast array of optical fiber, offering virtually unlimited bandwidth to serve the growing needs of our community. The primary purpose of these facilities is to share the cost of a connection to the Internet2 network and to establish a high-performance regional exchange for participants and serve as a regional backup infrastructure in the event of a disaster.

The NoX distributed exchange consists of an array of high-performance routers and switches interconnected to each other, to subscribers, and to regional and national network service providers. When subscribers connect to this exchange, local traffic remains within the exchange, improving performance and reducing demand on more congested and costly backbone networks. Interconnection today between all NoX co-location facilities is 10GB per second over NoX owned dark fiber with a 10GB per second connection to Internet2.

The NoX will support connections from New England Rural Healthcare Hospitals, and groups submitting proposals to the Federal Communications Commission for the "Rural Healthcare Pilot Program". This includes helping in their efforts and fully supports their proposal to the Federal Communications Commission. We believe the Federal Communications Commission has provided the vehicle to interconnect Rural Healthcare into the already existing network of teaching hospitals and medical schools in the urban areas. The potential to overlay applications, including using telepresence, for consultation, continuing education for doctors and nurses, and emergency room remote support are just a few of the potential applications that can be fostered.

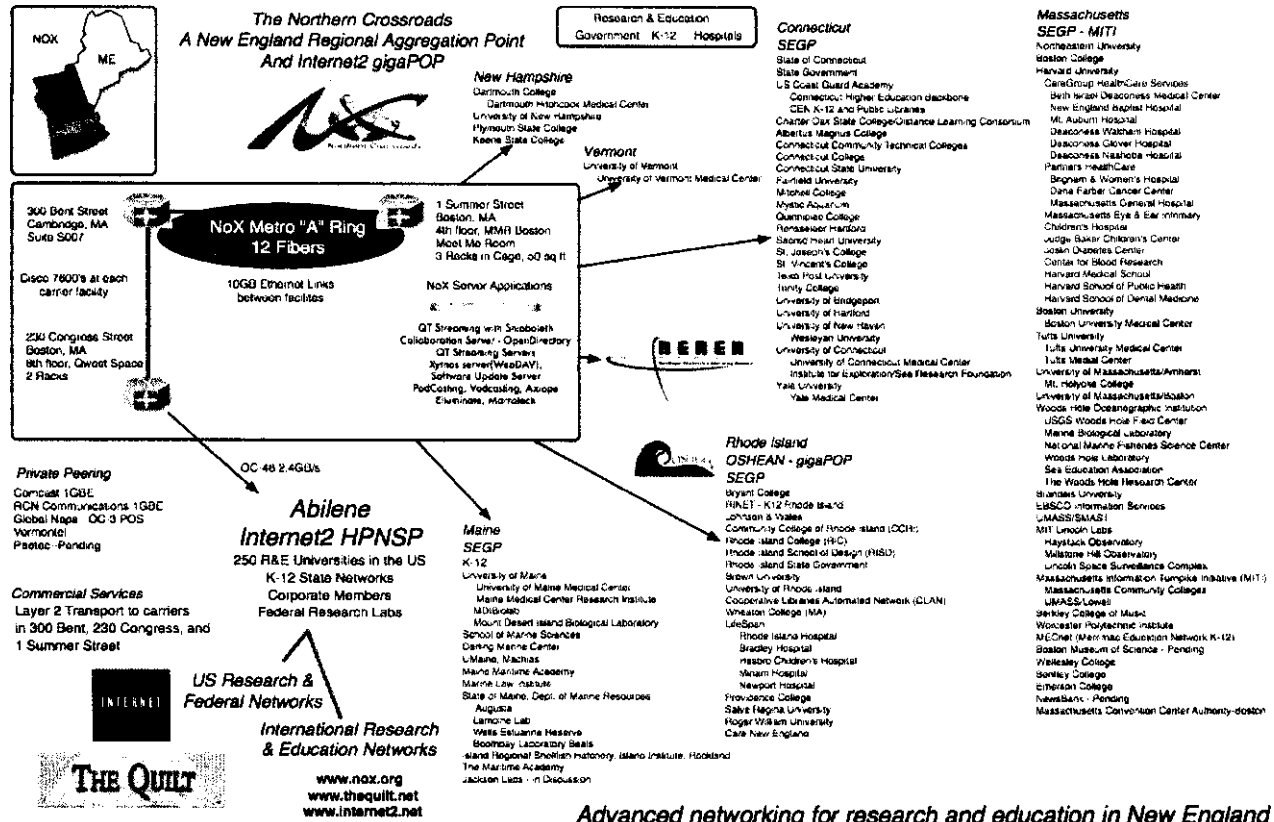
Healthcare is a primary member of the NoX and the NoX promotes and provides support today to the following institutions in New England. These Medical Schools, Hospitals, and Research Labs would be connected to the Rural Healthcare Hospitals and groups through high performance regional connectivity and to national and international healthcare institutions with connections to Internet2. The regional component is important, providing regional areas of the US with redundancy and backup links that can function in the event national or commercial carrier networks become unavailable in the event of natural disaster or attack. The potential exists to create regional and national overlay (private networks) for healthcare, improving security of patient data along with performance.

## Northern Crossroads Healthcare Members

The members below are among the world's leading medical institutions, teaching hospitals and medical schools. Connecting these institutions into the 600 plus sites in rural New England would provide unprecedented opportunity to foster telepresence, teaching/learning environments **and** application development in rural Healthcare.

- Boston University
  - Boston University Hospital
- Dartmouth
  - Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center
- Harvard University
  - Harvard Medical School
  - Harvard School of Public Health
  - Harvard Dental School
- Harvard Affiliated Teaching Hospitals
  - CareGroup Healthcare Services
    - Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
    - New England Baptist Hospital
    - Mt. Auburn Hospital
    - Deaconess Waltham Hospital
    - Deaconess Glover Hospital
    - Deaconess Nashoba Hospital
- Partners Healthcare
  - Brigham & Women's Hospital
  - Dana Farber Cancer Center
  - Massachusetts General Hospital
  - Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary
  - Children's Hospital
  - Center for Blood Research
  - Judge Baker Children's Center
- OSHEAN gigaPOP ~ Rhode Island
  - LifeSpan Hospitals
    - Bradley Hospital
    - Rhode Island Hospital
    - Hasbro Children's Hospital
    - The Miriam Hospital
    - Newport Hospital
    - New England Medical Center
- Tufts University
  - Tufts University Medical Center
  - Tufts University Medical School
- The State of Connecticut
  - University of Connecticut
    - University of Connecticut Medical Center
- University of Maine
  - Maine Medical Center Research Institute
- University of Massachusetts
  - University of Massachusetts Medical Center
- University of Vermont
  - University of Vermont Medical College
- Yale University
  - Yale Medical Center

## Northern Crossroads Members



For additional information on the Northern Crossroads, please don't hesitate to call or email.

Leo Donnelly  
Harvard University  
617.384.6541  
leo\_donnelly@harvard.edu

# **New England Telehealth Consortium**

*A Consortium of 555 Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont Health Care Sites*

## **Support Letters Sent to FCC Direct**

Mr. John Sununu  
U.S. Senator  
New Hampshire

Mr. Judd Gregg  
U.S. Senator  
New Hampshire

Mr. Paul Hodes  
U.S. Representative  
New Hampshire

Mrs. Carol Shea-Porter  
U.S. Representative  
New Hampshire

**FCC WC Docket No. 02-60**  
**Rural Health Care Support Mechanism: Pilot Program**

James E. Rogers, Jr.  
**New England Telehealth Consortium**  
**145 Exchange Street, Suite 4**  
Bangor, Maine 04401  
207 947-3636  
jrogers@pinonline.com